

**3995 Wells Road
Peconic, NY 11958-1738**

January 14, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Attorney General Ashcroft:

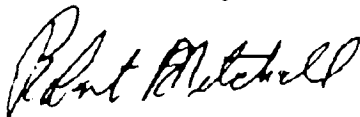
I am writing in support of the settlement with Microsoft. The required changes in Microsoft's business practices will restore fair competition and prevent future antitrust violations.

The settlement mandates many specific changes on Microsoft's part. For instance, Microsoft has agreed to make available to its competitors any protocols implemented in Windows' operating system products that are used to interoperate natively with any Microsoft server operating system. Plus, Microsoft has agreed not to enter into any agreements obligating any third party to distribute or promote any Windows technology exclusively or in a fixed percentage. Also, Microsoft has agreed not to retaliate against software or hardware developers who develop or promote software that competes with Windows or that runs on software that competes with Windows.

This settlement is in the best interests of the American public and the American economy. The recession has had a devastating effect on state budgets and the Federal budget. It is important that the American technology industry be allowed to concentrate on business again as soon as possible.

Thank you for your wise leadership.

With sincere regards,



Robert Mitchell